To confirm the Uſe of this Sea-Gage, ſhewn before to the Society, I made another Experiment in the following Manner. Having pour'd ſome Quick-ſilver into the Bottle of the Gage, I pour'd on upon it Treacle to the Depth of half an Inch, then ſcrew'd on the Braſs Cap of the Bottle to which the Glaſs Gage-Tube was cemented; by which Means the open End of the Tube was brought under the Surface of the Mercury, the ſealed End being upwards. The Machine, thus fitted, was immers'd in a cylindrick Veſſel of Water, which with a Plate at Top was preſs'd between two Pillars, in ſuch Manner that Air might be condens'd over the Water without eſcaping. Then having forc'd in ſo much Air with a Syringe, as to lay on a Preſſure equal to what would be in a Depth of 40 Foot of Water, I open'd the Cock of the upper Plate, let out the Air, and, upon taking out the Machine, it appear'd how high the Quick-ſilver had riſen in the Gage-Tube, by the greaſy Mark which the Treacle left within.

VII. *Extract of Two uncommon Caſes of Tumours of the Abdomen, from a Latin Tract publiſh'd at* Strasburgh, Anno 1728, *and entituled,* Joannis Boecleri, M. D. &c. ad Exteros Medicos Epiſtola; *by* W. Rutty, *M. D. R. S. Secr.*

THE firſt is concerning a Woman, an Inhabitant of *Strasburgh*, of Thirty-two Years of Age, whoſe Belly, after an immature and haſty Labour, grew gradually for Ten Years together. During the whole

whole Time of Geſtation, ſhe complain'd of ſcarcely any other Symptom than the Weight and Heavineſs of her Belly; only now and then of a tenſe Pain and a Difficulty in Reſpiration: She ſaid nevertheleſs, that Flatuſes would ſometimes be diſcharged from the *Pudenda*, and the more they were ſo, the leſs Uneaſineſs ſhe perceived. The Menſtrua were regular as to Time; but as to Quantity ſhe did not explain her ſelf: But in the latter Months, towards her Death, ſhe grew plainly cachectick. Her Countenance was cadaverous; her Breaſt and upper Limbs perfectly emaciated; her Feet oedematous, and the Belly much more turgid and prominent than before; ſo that at length ſhe breathed with the utmoſt Difficulty, and upon taking any Nouriſhment, complained of a great Straitneſs in her Cheſt. Upon opening the *Abdomen*, two Days after her Death, ſome Water flow'd out, of a wheyiſh Colour, tho' in what Quantity was not taken Notice of; but upon dividing the *Uterus*, a plentiful Quantity of a bloody Liquor iſſued from it, together with ſeventy-two Molæ of different Figures and Solidity, and chiefly of a black Colour. One only, the 76th, was fix'd to the lower Part of the right Side of the *Uterus*, contiguous to its internal Orifice. Theſe ſolid Subſtances weighed 64 Ounces; as the Liquor alſo filled 15 antient *Alſace* Meaſures, ſo that taken together, the Whole weighed 80 Pounds Apothecaries Weight. The Skin of the *Abdomen* was very thin, and almoſt tranſparent; the Navel perfectly obliterated; the Fat almoſt entirely conſumed; the Muſcles pale, flaccid, and very thin alſo; and the *Peritonæum* in ſome Places ſo ſtrongly attach'd to the *Uterus*, that it could not, without the utmoſt Difficulty, be torn from it. The Body of the

Uterus, which is naturally thick, was extenuated to the ſame Degree of Rarity and Tranſparency with that of the Cutis of the *Abdomen*, and of a ſurpriſing Capacity. The Liver appear'd pale, and ſo flaccid that it might be eaſily rubb'd to Pieces. The Height of the Belly from the Vertebræ of the Loins to the Navel meaſured $1\frac{1}{2}$ Foot; its Length from the *Cartilago enſiformis* to the *Pudenda*, $2\frac{1}{2}$ Feet; and its Circumference at the Waiſt, 4 Feeet $2\frac{1}{2}$ Inches, tho' the Woman was naturally of a ſmall Size and Stature.

The Second is of a Maid-ſervant in the ſame City, of twenty-three Years of Age, whoſe Belly, from a Suppreſſion of the Menſtrua, grew ſlowly for three Years, without any other notable Diſorder; till upon an accidental Fall, it encreaſed ſo much in ſix Days, as to obliterate the Navel; and not being capable of a farther Diſtenſion, Part of the Matter which cauſed the Tumefaction, flowed down to the Legs and ſwelled them likewiſe; which brought on a Difficulty of Breathing, a ſmall, frequent, and uneaſy Pulſe, with a total Loſs of Appetite. But what was more remarkable, the *Syſtole* and *Diaſtole* of the Heart were plainly felt under the left Clavicle, the Heart being, upon Diſſection, found thruſt up to that Part of the *Thorax*. The 14th Day from the Fall, a *Diarrhœa* came on, which kill'd her in a few Days. Upon making a ſmall Inciſion in the right *Hypochondrium*, there guſhed out from the Cavity a Liquor, in Colour, Conſiſtence, and Froth reſembling well boiled Beer; which upon enlarging the Inciſion, was followed by a fœtid purulent Matter, with entire Portions of the putrified Caul; which Matter filled 56 *Strasburgh* Pints. Upon this the Belly ſubſided; but a large ſolid Subſtance ſtill remained

mained under the containing Parts of the *Abdomen*. Opening therefore the whole Cavity, there was found under the left Groin a conſiderable Tumour, nouriſhed by its proper Veſſels, and every where fixed to the circumjacent Membranes; which being freed from, it weighed 6 Pounds common Weight. This Tumour proved a Congeries of incyſtated Abceſſes (wrapt up in one common Covering) of different Sizes; the largeſt as big as a Man's two Fiſts, the ſmalleſt the Size of an Egg; and each of a different Sort of Subſtance: Beſides which was a great Number of *Hydatides*. The *Peritonæum* was as thick as the *Cutis*; the Caul almoſt entirely deſtroyed; the Stomach natural, but perfectly empty; the Guts livid, very much thickened and vaſtly inflated, and moreover connected preternaturally to each other by peculiar Membranes. The Liver ſtrongly adhered to the right *Hypochondrium*, and its Coat parted from its *Parenchyma* almoſt ſpontaneouſly. The left Kidney very near equal'd the Spleen in Bulk, and the *Pancreas* was as hard as a Cartilage; but the *Uterus* and Bladder were found in *ſtatu ſano*. The Cavity of the *Thorax* was much ſmaller than uſual, from the Contents of the *Abdomen* preſſing up the *Diaphragm* into it; in which Cavity alſo was found the ſame Sort of bloody putrid Liquor, as likewiſe in the *Pericardium*. The right Ventricle of the Heart was preternaturally ſoft and flaccid, and being opened, was lined with Hydatides. The upper Parts of the Body were emaciated; the lower much tumefied by the Water contained within them.

The Author, after this, cites three other Caſes of extraordinary preternatural Tumours of the *Abdomen*, communicated to him by Dr. *Valentine Scheide*, the preſent

preſent chief Phyſician of *Strasburgh*, all which occurr'd in his own Practice; as the foregoing are recorded in the Regiſter of that Univerſity. Theſe likewiſe are very remarkable: But as they are not altogether ſo uncommon, a particular Account need not be given of them.

VIII. *An Account of the Culture and Management of Saffron in* England, *by* James Douglaſs, M. D. Med. Regin. Extr. & S. R. S.

AS Saffron grows at preſent moſt plentifully in *Cambridge-ſhire*, and has grown formerly in ſeveral other Counties of *England*, the Method of Culture does not, I believe, vary much in any of them, and therefore I have judged it ſufficient to ſet down here the Obſervations which I employed proper Perſons, in different Seaſons, to make in the Years 1723, 24, 25, and 28, up and down all that large Tract of Ground that lies between *Saffron-Walden* and *Cambridge*, in a Circle of about ten Miles Diameter. In that Country Saffron has been longeſt cultivated, and therefore it may reaſonably be expected that the Inhabitants thereof are more throughly acquainted with it than they are any where elſe.

I ſhall begin with the Choice and Preparation of the Ground. The greateſt Part of the Tract already mention'd is an open level Country with few Incloſures; and the Cuſtom there is, as in moſt other Places, to crop two Years, and let the Land lie fallow the third. Saffron